



**5** PRAY THE PSALM OF THE WEEK **Psalm 54:4-5, 1-3, 7**

Behold, God is my / helper;\*  
 the Lord is with those who up- / hold my life.  
 He will repay my enemies for their / evil.\*  
 Cut them off / in Your truth.  
 Save me, O God, / by Your name,\*  
 and vindicate me / by Your strength.  
 Hear my / prayer, O God;\*  
 give ear to the words / of my mouth.  
 For strangers have risen up a- / gainst me,\*  
 they have not set God be- / fore them.  
 He has delivered me out of all / trouble;\*  
 and my eye has seen its desire upon my / enemies.

**6** SAY TOGETHER THE VERSE OF THE WEEK **Luke 16:9**

And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

**7** READ THE SCRIPTURE AND DEVOTION (OTHER SIDE OF THE PAGE)

**8** PRAY THE PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Let Your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of Your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions, make them to ask such things as shall please You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen.

**9** PRAYER FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS

**10** SING OR SAY THE HYMN OF THE WEEK  
**One Thing's Needful; Lord, This Treasure**

TLH 366, LSB 536

Johann H. Schroeder



1. One thing's needful; Lord this treasure  
 Teach me highly to regard;  
 All else, though it first give pleasure,  
 Is a yoke that presses hard.  
 Beneath it the heart is still fretting and  
 striving,  
 No true, lasting happiness ever deriv-  
 ing.  
 The gain of this one thing all loss can  
 requite  
 And teach me in all things to find true  
 delight.

6. Wilt thou find this one thing needful,  
 Turn from all created things  
 Unto Jesus and be heedful  
 Of the blessed joy He brings.  
 For where God and Man both in one  
 are united,  
 With God's perfect fullness the heart is  
 delighted;  
 There, there is the worthiest lot and  
 the best,  
 My One and my All and my Joy and my  
 Rest.

**1** BLESS YOURSELF WITH THE HOLY CROSS AND SAY:  
 In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**2** SAY THE APOSTLES' CREED  
 I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 Maker of heaven and earth.  
 And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our  
 Lord, who was conceived by the Holy  
 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
 under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died  
 and was buried. He descended into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the  
 dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at  
 the right hand of God, the Father  
 Almighty. From thence He will come to  
 judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
 Christian church, the communion of  
 saints, the forgiveness of sins, the  
 resurrection of the body, and the life  
 everlasting. Amen.

**3** PRAY THE LORD'S PRAYER  
 Our Father, who art in  
 heaven,  
 hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 Thy will be done on earth as it  
 is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily  
 bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses  
 as we forgive those who  
 trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into  
 temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For Thine is the kingdom and  
 the power and the glory  
 forever and ever. Amen.

**4** PRAY THE MORNING OR EVENING PRAYER

*Morning.* I thank You, my  
 heavenly Father, through Jesus  
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You  
 have kept me this night from all  
 harm and danger; and I pray that  
 You would keep me this day also  
 from sin and every evil, that all my  
 doings and life may please You.  
 For into Your hands I commend  
 myself, my body and soul, and all  
 things. Let Your holy angel be with  
 me, that the evil foe may have no  
 power over me. Amen.

*Evening.* I thank you, my  
 heavenly Father, through Jesus  
 Christ, Your dear Son, that You  
 have graciously kept me this day;  
 and I pray that You would forgive  
 me all my sins where I have done  
 wrong, and graciously keep me this  
 night. For into Your hands, I  
 commend myself, my body and  
 soul, and all things. Let Your holy  
 angel be with me, that the evil foe  
 may have no power over me. Amen.

**THEME OF THE WEEK: Faithful Stewardship of Earthly Gifts**

None has deserved anything from God except his temporal and eternal punishment. However, God does not give to us as our sins deserve. He did not even spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all, and even now graciously gives us daily bread to support this body and life. When God gives us earthly gifts, He calls us to be stewards of those gifts. Faithful stewards imitate the love of God, who in His mercy did not turn us away, but gave His dearest treasure for us. As we have been loved by God and freely received from Him salvation (and everything else we need) without any merit or worthiness in ourselves, so too we help our neighbor in his need and await the eternal reward God has promised through His Son.

**SUN**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 16:1-9 Your Father is Merciful**

The parable is not about managing money, but rather about God's mercy and kingdom. God is the rich man. The steward begins to use his master's wealth to his own advantage (and the debtors do not stop him) because they trust the rich man's mercy. In the end, the master commends the steward because he finally shows the debtors mercy at his own expense. This is what the master wanted all along. This is how it is the kingdom of God. At God's expense, even the life of His own Son, the debt of sinners is paid. Therefore, be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

*Merciful Father, cleanse our hearts of sin and teach us to love You and help our neighbor to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.*

**MON**

**SCRIPTURE: Psalm 119:65-72 (TETH) God' Word Lights Our Path to His Kingdom**

God is good, and so His Word is good and trustworthy. The Word of God is a lamp to our feet and light to our path. It teaches us to love Christ who has given His life to save us from sin, death and the devil. God's Word gives us joy in the midst of woe and hope in this veil of tears. It is more precious than silver and gold. We use it to sanctify every day. Mammon perishes, but the Word of the Lord endures forever. Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it, for they are heirs of the kingdom of God.

*Lord, God, always keep us steadfast in Your wholesome Word that is able to make us wise to unto salvation, which is in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.*

**TUE**

**SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13 Escape Temptations with the God's Word**

None is so strong that he can stand in the midst of temptation on his own. Christ, who has redeemed us with His innocent blood, strengthens us by His holy Word that we might not fall. Do not neglect God's Word and prayer, because they are the way to escape temptation, even as Jesus responded to the devil's temptations in the wilderness with the Word of God, and did not stumble. We are tempted to use God's earthly gifts selfishly. This is idolatry, but in the Word of God faithful stewards are instructed how to use all things honorably in worship of the true God and in service to our neighbor.

*Lord God, do not forsake us in the midst of temptation, but strengthen us with Your holy Word, and when we do sin, forgive us for the sake of Christ. Amen.*

**WED**

**SCRIPTURE: 1 Chronicles 29:10-13 Riches and Honor Come from God**

David worships the Lord not only in word, but in deed as well. He acknowledges that his life and all earthly possessions come from the Lord by giving cheerfully and generously for the building of the temple. Likewise, we worship God with our generous and cheerful offerings to support the Church and to help those in need. Behold, God has already given His Son into death for the building of the Church. Christ has already reconciled us to God and purchased the Church, so we give not as slaves to sin, but as sons of God, righteous and holy through faith. *Gracious Father, You gave Your dearest treasure, Your only-begotten Son, for us; grant that we receive His salvation through the Word and Sacraments and abound in good works and godly living. Amen.*

**THU**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 12:32-48 Your Father's Pleasure is to Give You the Kingdom**

What would we do differently if we knew today was the day Jesus would come back? Is there a neighbor we would help or a conflict that we would resolve or a sin that we would finally confess that we might receive absolution for the sake of Christ's atoning death? Do whatever that is with haste and faith in God's rich mercy that you might be prepared for the appearing of Christ and receive the crown of eternal life that was promised you in your baptism. We are children of God, so do not fear for it is your Father's pleasure to give you the kingdom through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. *O Lord, through Your Son You have laid up a treasure in heaven for us that does not fail, keep us steadfast while we wait for Your return that we might receive our eternal inheritance. Amen.*

**FRI**

**SCRIPTURE: 2 Timothy 1:3-14 God's Holy Deposit in Our Hearts**

Paul is alone in prison, but he is not without the comfort of God's Word and the love of the saints. We also bear crosses. Sometimes we don't have much more in this life than the joy of Christ, His holy Word, and the fellowship of the saints. Still we are content. We have the forgiveness of sins in Jesus' blood. The joy of Christ and glory yet to come are not worth comparing with these present sufferings. Rejoice! God Himself will guard His holy deposit in your heart until the day of Christ's appearing and our final deliverance from all evil. *O Christ, guard Your Word in our hearts and make haste to help and deliver us from evil. Amen.*

**SAT**

**SCRIPTURE: Luke 22:24-30 Who is the Greatest?**

Our sin would prevent us from entering heaven, but in our pride we are often preoccupied with who is the greatest of all time! We wonder if we are better than our neighbor. How disastrous is our pride. We can enter heaven only humbly through faith which trusts the righteousness of Christ and the forgiveness of sins. Behold, our Lord Jesus Christ is the greatest, and yet He humbled Himself and served humanity by fulfilling the law and offering His life as a ransom for us. His humility is our salvation, and the only hope for puffed-up sinners. He took the lowly place of the cross for us, and by His mercy seats up with Him in eternal glory. *O Lord, apart from You we can do nothing and would perish in our sins, so we implore You to grant to us humility and faith and salvation for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

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